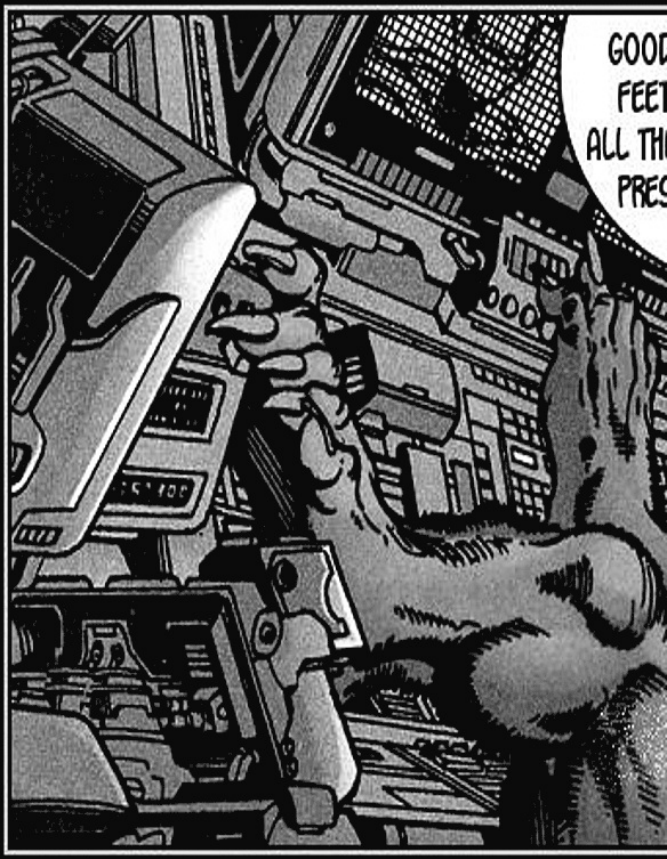


VISIT...

LANZAROTE
Caliente.COM



GOOD
FEET
ALL THE
PRES

THING I CAN USE MY
AS WELL TO SCAN!
E FASTER TO PROUDLY
ENT TO THE WORLD
AT LARGE:

EXCALIBUR

#19

(AN UMPTENTH **BEAST**
CHARMING SCAN)



FOR QUESTIONS AND REQUESTS,
MAIL TO BEASTCHARMING@YAHOO.COM

MARVEL
COMICS



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ARTIST: TIT

19
FEB
UK 75p

THE CROSS-TIME CAPER- EXCALIBUR

NOT
EXACTLY THE
X-MEN!

NEXT...!

LEONARD
MILGROM



MAD RIPPOR KNIGHTS

A STAN LEE
PRESENTATION.
STARRING
EXCALIBUR

CROSSTIME-- WHERE YOU GO WHEN YOU CUT SIDEWAYS ACROSS THE SIDEREAL STRING, INSTEAD OF FOLLOWING EACH DIMENSION UP OR DOWN ITS INDIVIDUAL TEMPORAL STREAM.

HERE, KITTY KITTY--

...COME OUT
COME OUT
MY DARLING LITTLE
SHADOWCAT--

--WHERE
EVER YOU
ARE!

NO PAST OR FUTURE HERE, MERELY AN INFINITE ARRAY OF ALTERNATE NOWS. THE EARTHS THAT MIGHT HAVE BEEN HAD HISTORY DONE "B" INSTEAD OF "A" OR VICE VERSA, AND THE PEOPLE WE WOULD HAVE BECOME-- ASSUMING, OF COURSE, WE EVEN EXISTED-- IN THEIR SOCIETIES...

ON THIS ONE, **EXCALIBUR** IS BEING HOUNDED AND HUNTED BY A MADCAP INCARNATION OF CAPTAIN BRITAIN'S OLDER BROTHER, JAMIE BRADDOCK.

THUS FAR, EVERY TIME THEY'VE CONFRONTED HIM, HE'S COME OUT ON TOP.

CHRIS CLAREMONT
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PENCILER

AUSTIN O'NEILL
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ORZECZKOWSKI
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EDITOR

JOE TOMA
DEFACTOR
REGULATOR

CLAREMONT
& DAVIS
CREATORS









MEANWHILE...

...IN WILDERNESS HIGHLANDS, THE BETTER PART OF A CONTINENT REMOVED FROM THIS DIMENSION'S ANALOGUE OF THE PIRATE PORT CITY OF MADRIDPOOR...

WHAT D'YE HOPE TO ACCOMPLISH, NIGHTCRAWLER?

WELL-- ALL THE TECH MANUALS WE FOUND ABOARD...

...INDICATE THIS TRAIN CAN DO A LOT MORE THAN SIMPLY RIDE ON RAILS.

THE TRICK IS, FINDING THAT PARTICULAR WAY TO MAKE IT GO!

EASIER SAID THAN DONE, SUSPECT.

WHY, PROFESSOR STUART-- HOW BLINDLY PERCEPTIVE!

CAN'T THINK OF ANY OTHER WAY, THOUGH, TO CATCH UP WITH KITTY AND CAP AND MEG.

WISH WE'D HEARD FROM THEM, I SHOULD NEVER HAVE LET KITTY--

--ALISTAIRE, WHAT'S UP?

BEST SCOOT UNDER COVER, MY FRIEND.

WE HAVE COMPANY.

ARE THEY STILL--?

MADDER THAN EVER!

IT WASN'T OUR FAULT!

TRY TELLING THEM!

PLEASE SIR PLEASE PLEASE PLEASE NEED HELP SANCTUARY DESPERATELY ON THE RUN UNJUSTLY ACCUSED IT WAS AN ACCIDENT BLOOD-THIRSTY MOB

WELL or I uh THAT IS--

YOU TELL 'EM, TIGER!

WE'LL DO ANYTHING!

NIGHT-CRAWLER!!

PUH-LEESE!

THAT GIRL HAS ABSOLUTELY NO SELF-CONTROL!

IN HERE, LADIES. MIND YOUR STEP!

DON'T YOU GET FRESH!

PERISH THE THOUGHT.

I'M A GENTLE-MAN!

THAT'S WHAT THEY ALL SAY!

ALISTAIRE-- YOU HEAD OFF THEIR PURSUERS!

FOR HEAVEN'S SAKE-- HOW?

KILL

HURT

MAIM

DISMEMBER

SUE



WHILE NIGHTCRAWLER GETS WHAT HE ASKED FOR-- MUCH TO HIS REGRET--

--A FEW CARS BACK, IN HER SLEEPING COMPARTMENT, RACHEL SUMMERS STIRS...

ALIVE. AND STILL... MYSELF.

WILL WONDERS NEVER CEASE?



NEVER ENCOUNTERED... BEING OF SUCH RAW POWER... AS JAMIE BRADDOCK.

I WAS SURE--WHEN HE GRABBED PSYCHIC HOLD OF ME--

--I WAS DONE FOR.

AS IT IS...



...TOO PHYSICALLY WASTED...

...TO MOVE.

NOT EVEN STRENGTH ENOUGH TO SPEAK.

OKAY-- I'M A TELEPATH. I DON'T NEED A VOICE...

...I'LL CALL OUT WITH MY MIND!



ALISTAIRE! NIGHTCRAWLER!! HELP!!!

SO MUCH FOR THAT IDEA.

CAN'T EVEN "HEAR" THEIR THOUGHTS...

...MUCH LESS REACH THEM WITH MINE-- WHUA?!



I'M PSI-LINKING WITH SOMEONE--

--MEGGAN! MAKES SENSE.

SOMEHOW, THERE'S A MENTAL RAPPORT BETWEEN US...

...THAT MADE ME SUSCEPTIBLE TO HER SHAPE-CHANGING POWERS...



*AS REVEALED LAST ISSUE--T.K.

...AND CONSEQUENTLY, VULNERABLE TO JAMIE'S ATTACK.

FROM HER MEMORIES AND PERCEPTIONS...

LOOKS LIKE HE GOT HER A PRETTY ROUGH TIME, THE SWINE!



A VOICE IN MY-- WHO--

--PHOENIX!

UPSY-DAISY, KIDDO.





Where am I?
Huh!
Bedroom.

Very feminine,
Tres chic,
Not my style.

Original
Decor.
Chinese-
style
P.J's.

Gate must not have
worked, guess I'm still
someplace in this other-
dimensional madripoor.

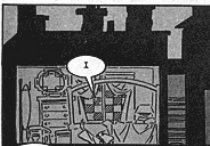
Yo,
Widget!

No sign of
him, or my
clothes.

Better get
my act in
gear...

...and go
searching--

Oh!



I

Don't

Feel

So



Terrribly



Good.

Gracious!

Startled the
life out of me,
you did girl,
poppin' through
yon ceiling
like a ghost!

'ERE, SIT'HERSELF DOWN AN'
GATHER THIS SHAWL ABOUT'HER
SHOULDERS, THERE'S A LASS.

In no fit state,
you are, t'be
ward'rinn' about
in yer nighties.

Catch'erself
a death you
will, you aren't
careful, turn
yourself inter
a ghost for
a pack!



Thanks,
I...

I'm sorry, I don't
mean to cause
any trouble...

...I just want
to know what
the devil's
happening?



Shame
on you!

'TAIN'T THE
LANGUAGE
O' PROPER
BROUGHT UP
YOUNG
GIRLS.

But what else can
you expect I
s'pose, you bein'
American an' all.

Puh-
lease!



This is
great soup,
really hits
the spot.

My own special
recipe, tha' is,
Master Brinn an'
Miss Elisabeth,
they always
swore by it.

I'm Emma, I
look after the
Braddocks.

An' this is
the London
town'ouse o'
me favorite
Bonny boy,
the world
champion
race car
driver...

Jamie
Braddock!



MADRIPOOR...

I THOUGHT
MY SENSES
WERE SHARP.
COMPARED TO
WOLVERINE...

...I'M
NOTHING.

EVERYONE AROUND
ME-- EVERYTHING--
--HAS ITS
INDIVIDUAL
SCENT.

MAKES
A SPECIAL
SOUND.

I'M AWARE
OF THEM ALL!

NOT THAT I CONSCIOUSLY
FOLLOW EVERY BIT
AND PIECE...

BUT WHEN
I NEED TO
FOCUS ON A
SPECIFIC
ONE... ..THERE
IT IS.

RUFF

? I'M SMOKING--
--AND
ENJOYING
IT!
BUT I DON'T--
I HATE--

NO-- I
HATE.
WOLVERINE
DOESN'T.

HOW
CLOSELY
DO WE
MATCH?

HE HAS
UNBREAKABLE
BONES AND...

...CLAWS.

SNIK!

HIS ARE
METAL.

MY BODY'S
MADE MINE
NATURALLY.

WHAT
DOES
THIS
MEAN?

IF I BECOME TOTALLY
WOLVERINE, WITHIN
AND WITHOUT...

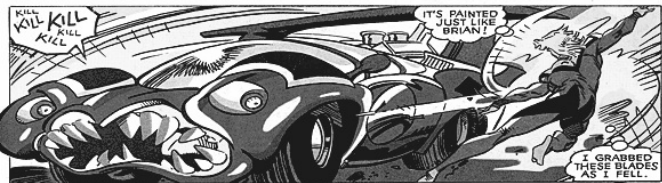
WHAT'S
LEFT OF
MEGGAN?

DOES SHE EVEN
EXIST AT ALL
AS HERSELF?

OR ONLY AS
ANOTHER'S
REFLECTION--

HEY?!!

SKROOM!









UHHH.

EEEE

UGKH

WHGH!

ANHH

THOUGHT I WAS
GONNA DIE!

THESE JEANS
FIT TIGHTER'N
MY SKIN!



BUT THEY'RE JUST
ABOUT THE ONLY
THING HERE I
CAN WEAR!

TUT TUT TUT
TUT TUT.

IN MY DAY, LUV,
GIRLS DRESSED
LIKE GIRLS.

JAMIE LIKED
SOME SERIOUSLY
NAUGHTY
BABES.

WOULDN'T YOU
RATHER TRY A
LOVELY
FROCK?



MAYBE NEXT
TIME, EMMA.

THERE'S
THE GATE!

MY LINE OF
WORK, MOBILITY'S
THE KEY.

SKIRTS AND HIGH
HEELS JUST GET
IN THE WAY.

'SIDES, I ALWAYS
END UP...

...LOOKING LIKE
A DORK.



EXCEPT FOR THAT
ONE TIME, WHEN
RACHEL...

WHAT'S
THAT?!

ZARK!

A LASER!

NOTHING ELSE
MAKES THAT KIND
OF SOUND, AND
NO ONE ELSE
MAKES IT...



...QUITE LIKE
DAZZLER!

DON'T GO
'WAY, WIDGET,
BE RIGHT
BACK!

CAME FROM
UPSTAIRS!

IMPOSSIBLE,
OF COURSE.

DAZZ DIED...



...ALONG WITH THE REST
OF THE X-MEN.

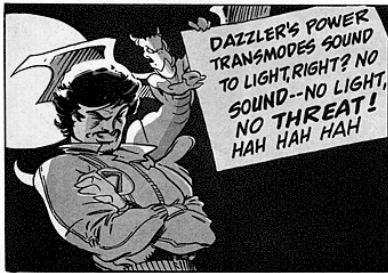
WAIT! MISS,
STOP!

--THAT'S
MASTER
JAMIE'S
ROOM!

YOU MUSTN'T
GO UP THERE--

MADRIDPOOR...

ZARK!









NOW, MEG--
THE COUP DE
GRACE--

--YOU
TRANSFORM
TO ROGUE--

--AND
USE HER
POWER--

--TO
ABSORB
ALL OF
HIS--

IF WE TIME
THINGS RIGHT--

BY THE
TIME HE WAKES
UP AND HIS
POWER REVERTS
BACK TO HIM--



--WE'LL BE LONG
GONE FROM THIS
NUTHOUSE PLAY-
PEN OF A WORLD!

AND GOOD
RIDDANCE!

DON'T MIND
SO MUCH TAKIN'
HIS POWERS...



--IT'S THE MEM'RIES
THAT COME WITH 'EM--

--YUGH!

YOU DON'T
WANT 'EM,
SWEETIE...



...THAT'S NO
PROB.

HOW
'BOUT I
TAKE YOURS
INSTEAD?

PHOENIX!



HE SUCKERED US!

PLAN'S BACK
--FIRING!

HE'S TAKING
OVER MEG, AND
THROUGH HER--



--CAN'T
BREAK THE
LINK--

--ME!

TWO PRETTY
DOLLY BIRDS FOR
MY PRIVATE COLLECTION
INSTEAD OF ONE.



OBOY
OBOY
OBOY!

WON'T
THIS BE
FUN?!



ONE SURE
THING ABOUT
EXCALIBUR--

...YOU ALWAYS
KNOW WHERE
WE'VE BEEN.

CHEER UP,
FUZZY--THIS
IS **NOTHING!**

...COMPARED TO
THE MESSES
WE'VE MADE.

EVERYBODY ACCOUNTED
FOR? EVERYONE ALL
RIGHT?



PHOENIX?

BEEN BETTER,
NIGHTCRAWLER.

BUT FOR THIS,
I'LL MANAGE.

I, ALSO.

DID WE GET HIM,
IS IT FINISHED?

'SCUSE ME--
--ANYONE SEEN
KITTY?



CAN'T HELP
WONDERING...

...CAP HAS POWERS,
HIS TWIN SISTER
BETSY HAS POWERS,
THE JAMIE OF THIS
DIMENSION HAS
POWERS--
--WHAT ABOUT THE
ONE IN OURS?

NEVER SEEN ANY EVIDENCE
OF IT TO SPEAK OF.

SOMETHING'S
MOVING!



'I'M BAAA!
MISS
ME?

I HAVE A
VERY BAD
FEELING
ABOUT THIS.

THAT'S CERTAINLY
PERCEPTIVE.

WHAT'LL
IT TAKE...
TO STOP
YOU!

HELPFUL,
TOO.



YOUNG MAN, THAT
IS ENOUGH!

IS THIS HOW YOU
BEHAVE, PLAYING
WITH TOYS 'TIL
ALL HOURS OF
THE NIGHT?!

IT IS WELL PAST YOUR
BEDTIME,
JAMIE
BRADDOCK!

I WANT YOU
UNDER COVERS--
STRAIGHT-
AWAY!

HE BOUGHT IT!
I ONLY HOPE HIS
FALLING ASLEEP
HERE...

...WILL HELP THE
OTHERS.

?!?

YES,
MA'AM.

HE'S
FADING
AWAY!

SO'S THE
CITY...

...AND THE
TWO OFFICERS!
HEY--WHERE'S
KITTY?!?

HE WAS ACTING
JUST LIKE A
LITTLE KID.

SO I FIGURED
THE WAY TO
DEAL WITH
HIM...

...WAS TO COME
ON LIKE THE BABY-
SITTER FROM HADES.

TOOK HIS
FIGURINES...

...TO MAKE
SURE JAMIE
DON'T TRY
THIS AGAIN

BUT SOONER
OR LATER...

...WE'RE GOING TO
HAVE TO DEAL WITH
HIM...

...AND THAT WILL NOT
BE FUN--

WHUA?!?

I'M ON
THE OTHER
SIDE OF
THE WALL!

WIDGET'S
GATE
DIDN'T
WORK!

I'M
TRAPPED
ON EARTH!

SHE TRIES AGAIN AND AGAIN,
REFUSING TO ACCEPT WHAT
SHE KNEW INSTINCTIVELY FROM
THE FIRST WAS TRUE.

...SHE MAKES HER
WAY ACROSS LONDON,
TO BRIAN BRADDOCK'S
TOWNHOUSE...

...WHERE SHE
CRIES HERSELF
TO SLEEP.

ONCE AGAIN, AS WITH THE
X-MEN, SHE'S LOST HER
TEAM. ONLY THIS TIME, IT'S WORSE.
THE DESOLATION MORE INTENSE.

BECAUSE SHE DOESN'T
EVEN KNOW IF SHE
SAVED THEM.

UNTIL, AT LAST,
HAVING NOWHERE
ELSE TO GO...

MERLIN'S
NEWS

Brian Braddock

IN ALL
HER
LIFE...

...SHE'S NEVER FELT
SO LOST, OR ALONE.

AND, THOUGH SHE
DOESN'T KNOW
IT YET...

...SHE'S NEVER
BEEN MORE
VULNERABLE.

SLEEP WELL,
KITTY.

GRIEF WILL
PASS.

AND WHEN
IT DOES...

...I'LL BE
WAITING--

--TO MAKE
YOU MINE!

NEXT:
CRUSADER-X

SWORD STROKES

% MARVEL COMICS GROUP
387 Park Avenue South
New York, New York 10016

TERRY KAVANAGH
EDITOR
KELLY CORVESE
ASSISTANT EDITOR

Attention correspondents: If you don't want your full address printed, please be sure to tell us!

Dear EXCALIBUR,

Kudos to you, Chris and Alan, for the super job you're doing on this comic. In my opinion, it's the best in the entire business! I was never really a true X-Man fan, but my favorite characters were always Kitty Pryde and Kurt Wagner. Thanks for including them in EXCALIBUR.

I have a few questions about Rachel. Throughout the *Cross-Time Caper*, we've been seeing references to the fact that nobody has ever heard of Phoenix in any of these alternate dimensions. Because I know only a little of X-Men history, and my X-Men X-pert just got married and lives in Chicago now, I'm not entirely certain how Rachel came to be. I've only heard that she was the daughter of Scott Summers and Jean (Grey) Summers in an alternate reality and somehow Kitty got her into this reality. Care to elaborate?

Another query... good ole Opal Luna Saturnyne (good grief what a name!) seems to be going through a lot of trouble to apprehend Rachel, a "threat to reality." By the time you get this letter, the answer may already have been clarified, but I'm curious. Could the reason we're not being seeing Rachel a.k.a. Phoenix in any of the other dimensions be that she isn't real herself? Or the fact that she was from an alternate reality to begin with, and was displaced by Kitty, thereby eradicating all her other counterparts? Maybe she poses a threat to reality because of the ease with which she can alter reality? (But changing Kitty's clothes in ish #4 and #6, as well as her own and Meggan's in ish #13 seem only to be a small sample of this, with the exception of the "interesting" clothing she gave Nigel's alter ego in ish #14.) Heck, even Galactus considers her a (dare I say it?) "galactic" threat. Why? She hasn't truly used her powers yet, so we can't qualify the threat.

As of this day, ish #15 has got to be the best you've done. Kitty looked wonderful as the female vampire. I would have loved to see more of that dimension. And Captain Britain, the duck?!! Waugh!! I see that Nigel finally listened to Courtney a.k.a. Saturnyne and got his hair dyed. It does look better. One final note on that issue... James Braddock has got to be the scariest nemesis I've seen yet in any comic. What is Saturnyne up to? Anyway, keep on producing Marvel's best comic and please bring back the illustrated back covers! When I saw the back of #15, I was miffed. The front cover would have made a splendid over wrap around!

Until Kurt is a Warrior (and this I've got to see), Make Mine Marvel!

Liz Halo
655 Park Avenue
New York, NY 10021

You can check out Rachel's entry in the Official Handbook of the Marvel Universe, Liz, for more info on Phoenix. Also be on the look-out for this summer's mutant Annuals for more on Rachel's world!

Dear Sword Strokes,

1.) Please do not limit Meggan to the powers of shapechanging and flight. At the very least she should be instinctively bringing out magical incantations that allow her to

bring forth fire and other energy. I do not regard Meggan as a shapechanger but as a creature of Magic. I am slightly disappointed that Chris is using her almost solely as a shapechanger.

2.) Ever thought of changing the title to "Phoenix & Co."? Please, please, please scale her down. After all this is supposed to be a team book. Let Saturnyne get hold of her and do something to limit her powers. This also has the added benefit of freeing the Technet.

3.) The "warpies" are at Muir Island (X-Men #254). How and when did they get there? Where are the RCX, Magik, and what are the Cherubim doing? Will any of them make an appearance in EXCALIBUR? Is the Weird Happenings Organization linked in any way to the RCX?

4.) More Lockheed!

Ian Ward

(Address withheld by request)

All of your comments will be elaborated on upcoming issues of X-MEN and EXCALIBUR, Ian, so be on the look-out!

Dear Sword Strokes,

I'm just writing to congratulate the EXCALIBUR crew; you guys are great! Please don't break up the team.

Chris Claremont is brilliant. Chris, no other Marvel writer comes close to you. Keep the great stories coming.

Alan Davis—your art is fantastic. Never before have I encountered such life-like art.

And to the rest of the EXCALIBUR crew—you all are outstanding. I don't think Marvel has ever had a better team and I hope the great standard will continue. (Sorry—I have to say this.) I love Kitty—she's brilliant. (Thanks for drawing her so well, Alan.) She can phase through my door any time—there's a new story, Excalibur in Australia! Anyhow, once again, congrats and until Kitty becomes a cheerleader, Make Mine Marvel!

Jason Campbell
Melbourne, Australia

Well, Jason, I hope you're happy! Chris and Alan's heads just swelled so much they just floated out our window and we're having a heck of a time trying to get them down!

Terry,

It's me again. I don't think that I have written as many letters to any other new title as I have to EXCALIBUR. I guess that should show you how much I love this title. In my opinion, it is now the #1 spot with my favorites. I expect it to remain in this position for a looong time.

I have already told you how much I am enjoying "The Cross-Time Caper" but I'll tell you again. It's great! I haven't enjoyed a dimension-hopping story like this for a long time and it doesn't look like it will lose steam. If it doesn't end up one of the highest-rated stories for '89 then I don't know what is wrong with comic fans.

I enjoyed the "spotlight" on the Technet in EXCALIBUR #15. Claremont has always had great success with making me enjoy "secondary" characters and he didn't fail me this time.

But I still wish that we could have seen more of the interesting looking adventures that we only got a peek of that Excalibur went on this issue. I would have especially liked to have seen their horror adventure. It looked very interesting. Kitty looked great as a vampress and Kurt and Meggan fit into the setting very well. I love comedy mixed with horror ("Young Frankenstein," "Haunted Honeycomb [I'll really miss Gilda]," and "Saturday The 14th" just to name a few.) and this story looked like it could have been just as fun.

I like Meggan's new costume. Except for the bare feet, I have never liked bare-footed "costumes." Feet seem to be the hardest parts of the body for any artist to draw so they never seem to look right. Or left. (Sorry for the bad pun.) With unstable molecules it shouldn't be necessary for her, and most others too, to expose her feet. What if she stepped on something sharp?

I also like CB's costume. It's much better looking than the other ones. I am also glad that it helps solve, partly, his power "problems." I didn't like having Snowbird, from ALPHA FLIGHT, limited to Canada and I don't like having CB and Meggan limited to Great Britain. By the way, why wasn't Meggan given a costume to help her control her power? She didn't get her new costume in the same dimension as the one where CB got his so I assume that it has no special properties.

The intro of James Braddock was quite interesting. And it looks like he may be the more powerful of the Braddock "children." I can't wait to see what you have in store for him. And as a result, for Excalibur.

There has been some speculation as to just who CB really had that "type" of evening with, just who really has taken control of Nigel. Frohisher, and just who hired the Technet to free James Braddock. I think it's Sat-Yr. Nigel's earring is in the same pattern as what Sat-Yr has on her uniform. And even though it has been said that Saturnyne can be cruel I just can't see her murdering someone in cold-blood. I think that everything that is being done is being done in the name of revenge and as far as I know only Sat-Yr would have any reason for revenge.

When is Excalibur going to get a reoccurring super villain team to battle? I don't consider the Crazy Gang adequate to be their main foes so I hope you don't try to make them Excalibur's main foes. They would be interesting every once in awhile, but I would not want to see them in the frequency that primary foes would show up.

I also don't want to see too much of Arcade. His m.o. is getting old.

Roma seems to have focused her attentions on the X-Men but I do hope that we get to see her in this title one day. She is partly responsible for there being a Captain Britain, and she is partly responsible for there being an Excalibur.

I expected EXCALIBUR to be good, but not really this good. I am glad that I can still be surprised by a new title. Keep on surprising me, guys.

Derrick Fannin
Van Lear, KY 41265

It's a deal, Derrick!